

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks and the above amendments, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the Office Action of April 24, 2006, are earnestly solicited.

Claims 1—6 remain pending in the application. Claim 4 has been amended to clarify Applicants' invention.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 4 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Mayer (U.S. Patent 6,915,171). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 4 now calls for the number of functions being greater than the number of driver circuits, two of the functions sharing the same set of driver output status, and one of the two functions enabled faster than the other. All of this is absent from Mayer. Independent Claim 4 and its dependent Claim 5 are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowability of Claims 1—3 and 6.

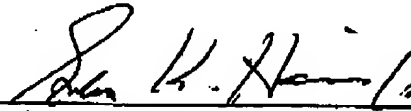
Claim 4, as amended herein, and Claims 1—3 and 5—6, as originally submitted, are believed to be in condition for allowance, early acknowledgment of which is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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